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Print Edit Other
Page Page Page

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FPCC on Cuba-U.S. Policy

THE DENVER POST editorial of Dec. 6 on the Fair Play for Cuba Committee is a masterpiece of misrepresentation. The aims of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee are to end the ban imposed by the United States government on travel to Cuba, to present those aspects of events in Cuba which the press in this country ignores, and to work toward the reestablishment of diplomatic relations and trade between the United States and Cuba.

Does The Denver Post, a newspaper interested in civil liberties, feel that we should not be allowed to go to Cuba? Surely, if things there are as bad as most of the press claims, that information will get around and very few people will want to go. But we in F.P.C.C. maintain that the public is being deceived, that the situation in Cuba is far, far better than one would gather from the popular press, and that the people of the United States would not put up with our government's policy toward Cuba if they knew the conditions now prevailing there.

Does The Denver Post object to efforts of the F.P.C.C. to publish reprints of articles by people who have been to Cuba when these people disagree with the attitude of a major part of the press? Can The Denver Post object to the publication of Dr. Castro's speeches in the U.S. and at

the same time not object to the publication of the president's interview with the Russian press?

Does The Denver Post object to the opinion that it was wise to sever diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba? Such writers as H. T. Mathews, Sidney Lens, Morris Rubin, and Dave Dellinger maintain that it was the cutting off of such relations along with other punitive measures that drove Cuba toward the Soviet bloc. Castro's having become a Marxist-Leninist is not less than fair play to anybody, it is the result of U.S. policy toward Cuba. The man did not consider himself to be a Communist and was not a Communist party member in late 1959, according to the testimony of General Cabell, deputy director of the C.I.A.

If the United States expects to keep the trade and the friendship of Latin America, we must begin to learn that

socialism is not synonymous with totalitarianism and that underdeveloped countries with different backgrounds from ours cannot become parliamentary democracies overnight.

I believe that the American public supports our current actions in Latin America only because it does not know what is happening there. And since what is happening in Cuba is affecting all of that area, until the press in the U.S. starts telling the truth and until we are again permitted to travel to Cuba, the Fair Play for Cuba Committee will still be needed.

MARY F. WALKER,
Denver.

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